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PATENT 2-26-99

Atty Docket No.: 427600800004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

jc549 U.S. PTO
09/228845
01/12/99

Inventor(s): Paul Metcalfe, Craig Homberg, Walter Lockard

Serial No: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: COUPLING ASSEMBLY HAVING ENHANCED AXIAL TENSION
STRENGTH AND METHOD OF INSTALLATION OF COUPLED
UNDERGROUND DUCT

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By Deborah A. Sotman

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the guidelines for Information Disclosure Statements set forth in 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97-1.98 and MPEP Section 609, Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information of which he is aware, which he believes may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty of disclosure in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or

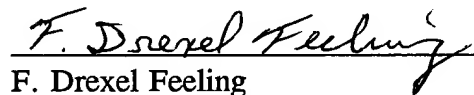
other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b) exists.

A list of patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each item listed is supplied herewith.

Any additional fees required for the proper filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should be withdrawn from the Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue Deposit Account No. 10-1202, Account 472600800004.

Respectfully submitted,



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